IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re the Application of: Kenji MARUYAMA et al.

Group Art Unit: 2813

Serial No.: 09/960,296

Examiner: L. SCHILLINGER

Filed: September 24, 2001

Confirmation No.: 4754

For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND METHOD FOR FABRICATING THE

SAME

Attorney Docket No.: 01

011267

Customer Number:

38834

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

December 24, 2003

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 24, 2003, Applicants amend the claims as follows and submit the following remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.